CITY OF FRESNO CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. C-16-022

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT:

Paul Halaiian

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PROJECT LOCATION:

8669 North Maple Avenue; Located on the west side of North Maple Avenue between East Teague and East

Shepherd Avenues

(APN: 403-022-09)

(Council District 6, Councilmember Brand)

PROJECTDESCRIPTION:

Conditional Use Permit Application No. C-16-022 pertains to 2.3 acres of property and proposes to construct a 13,624 square-foot Coptic Orthodox Church (Archangel Michael and Gabriel Coptic Orthodox Church) with religious educational classrooms, social hall, and an outdoor plaza. The subject property is located in the RS-4/UGM (Residential Single Family, Medium Low Density/Urban Growth Management)

zone district.

This project is exempt under Section 15332/Class 32 (Infill Development) of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

EXPLANATION:

Section 15332/Class 32 exempts from the provisions of CEQA, the construction of projects characterized as in-fill development meeting the following conditions: a) the project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with applicable zoning designation and regulations, b) the proposed development occurs within city limits on a project site of approximately ±2.3 acres, which is less than the five acre maximum, and is substantially surrounded by urban uses, c) the project site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species, d) approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality, and e) the site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.

By current standards, the subject site and surrounding areas are identified as "in-fill" within an urban setting.

The project complies with all conditions listed above. There is no substantial evidence in the record that any of the exceptions to these Categorical Exemptions, set forth in CEQA Guidelines

section 15300.2, apply to this project and no adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project.

Date: August 11, 2016

Prepared By: Phillip Siegrist, Planner II

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City of Fresno

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